

Freeburg Elementary School  
Monday, August 28, 2023  
7:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Education for Freeburg Community Consolidated School District No. 70 was held on Monday, August 28, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria at Freeburg Elementary School.

### **Call to Order**

Mrs. Foppe called the meeting to order and asked for a roll call of the members.

### **Roll Call**

In addition to Mrs. Foppe, board members Ed Scheibel, Jamie Smith, Jayson Baker, Amber Trout, David Stein, and Bill May were in attendance. Also in attendance were Dr. Melanie Brink, Superintendent and Mark Janssen, Financial Officer and Recording Secretary. Principals Lindsay Fark and Tiffany Zurliene were present. Heidi Eckert of Ford Harrison was also present.

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board and public stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Visitors**

Visitors to the meeting included district staff Courtney Maisel, Jennifer Hopfinger, Reagan Birkner, Ammie Hunt, Allison Schanz, Anna Smith, Jennifer Scheuchner, Jodi Goodnight, Rachael Stehl, Leah Beth Black, Jenny Hummert, Carrie Green, Emily Vasquez, Megan Daumueller-Cook, Natasha Tucker, Ashley Krakosky, Lauren Baker, Michelle Freebairn, and Cory Lawrence. Other attendees were Derek Albrecht, Danita Duecker, Tara Lauf, Sheila Tewell, Dereck Green, Jamee Wheeler, Randy Vasquez, Roger Skaer, John Lawson, Amber Lonsdale, Ben Belding, Leland Snyder, and Jeannine Sheppard.

Moved: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Amber Trout

### **A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).**

- MINUTES OF THE JULY 24, 2023 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND AUGUST 2, 2023 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
- INVESTMENT SUMMARY THROUGH AUGUST 25, 2023
- BUDGET SUMMARY THROUGH JULY 31, 2023

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

### **Approval of the Bills**

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: Jamie Smith

### **A MOTION WAS MADE TO APPROVE THE BILLS, AS PRESENTED (SEE ADDENDA).**

AYES: Scheibel, Smith, Baker, Trout, Stein, May, Foppe  
Motion Carried

## **Reports of Standing Committees**

## **Reports of Special Committees**

### **Petitions/Communications**

There were two Freedom of Information Act requests. The first was from Brian Weinstock of Danna McKittrick P.C. seeking several personnel and other miscellaneous items. We have asked for the request to be amended since it was lengthy. The second was from SmartProcure, which has sought all purchasing records since May. This request was filled with the five-day timeframe.

### **Public Participation**

The Board welcomed the public to the meeting.

### **Superintendent's Report**

Dr. Brink mentioned last week we had some extremely hot temperature days. With the possibility of loss of air conditioning at the Primary Center, the teachers worked quickly to ensure their E-Learning Plans were ready to go. Just a reminder to all families that our E-learning Plans can be found on the district website. E-Learning can be used in either inclement weather or emergency situations.

Dr. Brink stated the new entrances to both buildings have been working out great. The first week, we needed to get in a few more supplies with regards to the glass and intercom system, but by Friday of the first week, all was up and running. In addition, transportation drop off/pick up has run very smoothly after the first day.

Thank you to all the parents and families who have adjusted with us through this transition period.

Tomorrow we will have our first WIN TEAM meeting for PC staff. WIN is for WHAT I NEED. This team consists of members of grade level teams who will meet every other month or other times as scheduled by the principal or student services coordinator. This team will review individual grade level data to determine support necessary to help each student succeed. Recommendations for extended Tier II, III, or Special Education support may be made based on data provided during these meetings.

The District Leadership Team will have their first meeting tomorrow as well. I have shared our new MTSS support model with all the current team members and descriptions of each team for your review.

A team from BASSC (Ashley Reu and Shawn Dow) are coming to give teachers practical tools about putting restorative based tools into everyday classroom use while offering alternative ways to approach proactive discipline.

Dr. Brink thanked Mr. Tim and Mr. Mike for all their help last week when the air conditioning units went out. Being up on the roof in the extreme heat was not easy, but they never complained once and always, always said yes... What do you need?! And another Thank you to Donna, Kent, Matt, Matt, Sherry, Brendan, and Sondra for all their help this summer. Our buildings and grounds look amazing because each one of you gave so much time, love, and energy to us. We are blessed to have you here at FRG 70.

Dr. Brink updated the Board on enrollment to begin the new school year. Currently, we have 774 students.

Mr. May wanted to discuss the Board's current public participation procedures and policy. He expressed a desire for the Board and/or administrative be more responsive to questions from the public during public participation. He suggested an administrator get back to someone who asked a question within a week. Mr. Janssen suggested he or Dr. Brink could reach out to the person who asked a question or ask the person to contact them later that week. Then, the administrator would notify the Board contact was made and a synopsis of the discussion. The board agreed to that arrangement.

Dr. Brink informed the Board the Illinois Association of School Boards has unveiled a new program where they send out news updates and events. This update will flow through the board-appointed delegate to be presented at each month's meeting. After discussion, Mr. Scheibel who is the Board's IASB delegate would update the board monthly of any relevant news or updates.

Mr. Janssen gave a summary of the progress of the summer projects. Summer projects are completed, including the construction of new vestibules at both buildings to provide enhanced security. There were a few minor delays in getting the glass for the windows in and there was a snafu with the building access security software being incompatible with our current software. Both issues have been resolved. Mr. Janssen thanked Middendorf & Reuss for their work and thanked Glaenzer Electric for the timely completion of the lighting upgrade in the 1972 addition. Mr. Janssen also gave an update on the three HVAC units ordered last summer for the Primary Center. The units are expected next month. There will be a pre-construction meeting held in the coming weeks to formulate a plan on getting the units installed. The tentative plan is to begin installation during the first weekend of October, which is a holiday weekend. It is hoped much of the outside work will be completed thereby causing no disruption. He will keep the board updated.

Mrs. Fark presented the Principal's Report for the Primary Center. Open House was held on August 14. It was well attended, and parents seemed to appreciate the later start time. Mrs. Fark thanked the cheerleaders and Coach Birch for their presence on the first day of school. Boot camps were held on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> where the 3 "Rs" were emphasized. Picture day was held on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Fark reminded parents the PTO Back to School Picnic will be held tomorrow night.

Mrs. Zurliene presented the Principal's Report for the Elementary School. Boot camps were held on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>. Picture day was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. The opening Teachers' Institute was held on August 15 with Open House that evening. The attendance was very high. Assemblies were held for all grades in conjunction with the SRO to review bullying and the role of the SRO. Issues dealing with social media were all discussed with the students.

## **Old Business**

## **New Business**

Moved: Ed Scheibel

Seconded: Bill May



**A MOTION WAS MADE TO RESCIND DISCIPLINARY DOCUMENTATION FROM LAUREN BAKER'S PERSONNEL FILE WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE DOCUMENTATION MAY BE USED IN LITIGATION AND THIS UNDERSTANDING WILL BE PUT IN WRITING.**

AYES: Scheibel, Stein, May

NAYS: Smith, Trout, Foppe

ABSTAIN: Baker

Motion Failed

### **Other Business**

### **Adjournment**

Moved: Bill May

Seconded: David Stein

There being no further business to come before this body, **A MOTION WAS MADE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:51 P.M.**

Upon a voice vote, Motion Carried, 7-aye, 0-nay.

Michelle Foppe, President  
Board of Education, Dist. #70

Jamie Smith, Secretary  
Board of Education, Dist. # 70